



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

September 19, 2003

To: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

**MOTION TO SUPPORT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S POSITION TO ENACT
EMERGENCY LEGISLATION TO EXTEND MEGAN'S LAW (ITEM NO. 18, AGENDA OF
SEPTEMBER 23, 2003)**

Item No. 18 on the September 23, 2003 Agenda is a motion by Supervisor Antonovich to send a five signature letter to members of the State Legislature in support of the Attorney General's position to enact emergency legislation to extend Megan's Law upon the Legislature's return in December 2003.

On September 16, 2003, the Attorney General issued a statement regarding the expiration of Megan's Law and urged lawmakers to act quickly to extend the law to ensure that Californians have uninterrupted access to information on the location of registered sex offenders living in their communities. The Attorney General also asked the Governor and legislative leaders to consider convening a special session of the Legislature for the purpose of extending Megan's Law.

Existing law (Megan's Law) requires persons with prior convictions for specified sex offenses to register with local law enforcement officials within five working days upon becoming a resident of a city or county. Registration must be updated annually within five working days of the registrant's birthday, and in some instances, registration must be updated every 60 days or 90 days. The Department of Justice is required to provide law enforcement agencies with information on persons registered as sex offenders with serious or high risk sex offenses, which can then be viewed by the public. Also, every person who is required to register as a sex offender, and is a student or employee of any university, college, community college, or other institution of higher learning, must register with the campus police department. Megan's Law sunsets on January 1, 2004.

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AB 1313 (Parra) would extend the Megan's Law sunset date from January 1, 2004 to January 1, 2007, and would bring State law into compliance with Federal law by authorizing campus police to disclose information about registered sex offenders on California university and college campuses. According to the Attorney General, extension of this authority to campus police by October 1, 2003 would preserve \$5.1 million in Federal funding to the State. AB 1313 passed the Senate on September 11, 2003 by a vote of 40 to 0 and was sent to the Assembly for concurrence with Senate amendments. On September 13, 2003, the Assembly refused to concur in Senate amendments and the bill remained in the Assembly.

On September 17, 2003, the Governor called on the State Legislature to reconvene its regular legislative session to extend Megan's Law. The Governor also asked the Legislature to authorize state college campus police to release information on registered sex offenders working or living on campus to the campus community.

According to the Assembly Speaker's staff, the Assembly will reconvene its regular session for one day, September 30, 2003, to take up AB 1313. The Senate President pro Tempore has indicated that he will not reconvene the Senate because they have already passed the bill. AB 1313 would become effective upon the Governor's signature.

The County supported AB 1313 on September 11, 2003 based on existing Board policy to expand Megan's Law; therefore, support of the Attorney General's position is consistent with current Board policy.

DEJ:GK:MAL
JF:JL: hg

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel